

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

25X1

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

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EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT _____

25X1

DATE OBTAINED _____ E PREPARED 22 June 1955

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - sketch and legend on ditto

REMARKS _____

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Air activity and aircraft observed at Brandis airfield between 12 and 18 May 1955:
 - 12 May. No air activity was observed.
 - 13 May. At 0700, 7 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were parked at the take-off point. At 0715, one swept-back jet fighter towing a sleeve target took off. Subsequently, individual jet fighters took off and practiced flying for 15 to 30 minutes duration. Air activity was discontinued at 1200.
 - 14 and 15 May. No air activity was observed. On 15 May, the field was occupied by 36 jet fighters and 1 Yak-14. Most of the aircraft were parked west of the middle hangar on the northern edge of the field. Some aircraft were parked in the hangar. An alert formation of 3 aircraft was permanently parked north of the eastern end of the runway.
 - 16 May. At 0915, a Li-2 crossed over the field coming from the south and heading north.
 - 18 May. After 0700, there was air activity. Sixteen MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s, 2 radio trucks, 3 motor vehicles with closed superstructure, 1 truck, and 2 tank trucks were parked at the take-off point. Two or 3 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s individually took off, assembled in formations of two and three, and practiced formation flying near the airfield. The aircraft took off at the eastern end of the runway and lifted off the ground rather level at approximately midpoint of the runway. When flying over the gravel pit in the western extension of the runway, they had about 50 meters altitude and their landing gears were still extended. It was observed that an aircraft aborted on take-off and ran into the sand walls between the end of the runway and the gravel pit. When the dust cloud had disappeared, the aircraft was being towed away by means of a tractor. It did not appear as if the landing gear had been noticeably damaged. The sand walls were set up in late April or early May and obviously were placed there to prevent aircraft from crashing in the gravel pit when they could not become airborne on take-offs or overrunning the runway on landings.
2. Since the arrival of the unit, a single-mast radio installation has been located in the eastern extension of the runway, 250 to 300 meters from the end of the runway. The telescopic mast was about 10 meters high and braced by several guy wires. A cable was fitted at the masthead and extended into a radio truck parked 20 to 30 meters to the east. About 8 soldiers were seen next to the radio installation. The two radio trucks which were permanently parked at the take-off point were painted light blue. One of them had a mast 4 to 5 meters high, with an umbrella-type antenna on the masthead. The other radio truck had a red antenna about 1.5 meters high.²

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3. The AA gun emplacement was not occupied by AA guns.
4. Observations made at the field on 12 and 16 May:

12 May. The laying of lighting facilities was observed for the first time. About 12 officers did surveying work outside of the southern edge of the field. No construction work was observed.

16 May. Installation work was completed.²

After the arrival of new troops, about 2,400 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were estimated at the field, including many recruits. On one day, 4 platoons of about 40 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets and accompanied by a brass-band of 10 to 12 men marched through Pelenz toward the bathing-establishment.

5. On 26 May, a car loaded with bundles of corrugated sheet-iron, which were held together by angle iron, was observed at the railroad station. The individual bundles measured about 1.5 x 1.5 x 0.4 meters. The corrugated iron plates were not runway mats.
6. About 50 trucks and 40 caterpillar tractors were parked at the field.

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1. Comment. It is believed that Brandis airfield is occupied by the headquarters of the Fth Div Grossenhain and 2 fighter regiments. The

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A total of 36 jet fighters were counted on the landing field. For arrangement of aircraft, see Annex.

2. Comment. The reported establishment of radio and radar installations and the laying of lighting facilities after the transfer to a new military post was previously observed with air units.

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Legend to Annex

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Brandis Airfield

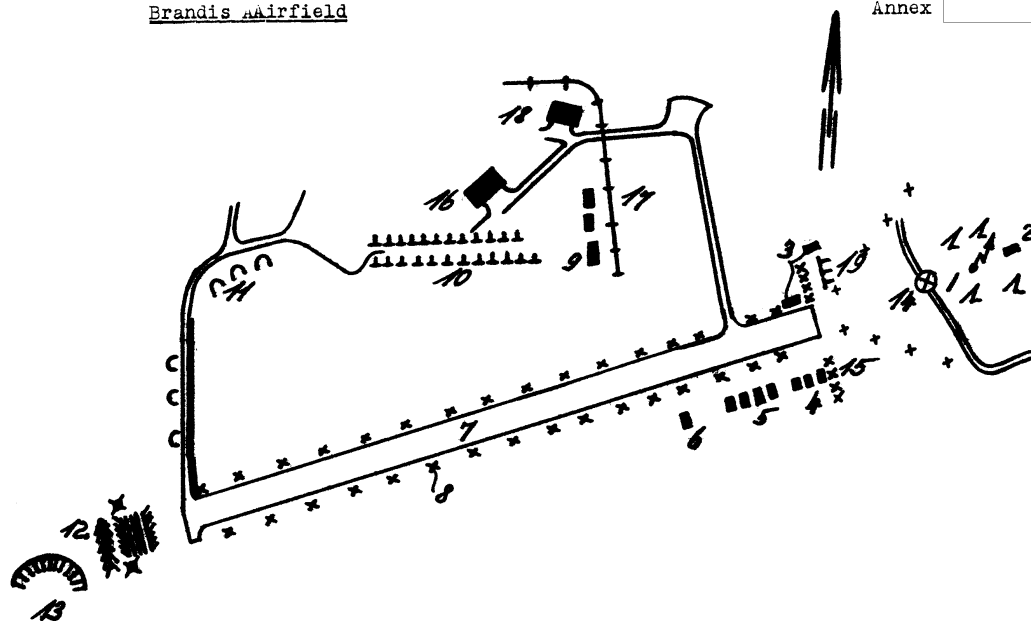
- 1 Radio installation with one mast
- 2 Radio truck near single-mast radio installation
- 3 Radio truck near take-off point
- 4 Tank trucks
- 5 Trucks with superstructure similar to that on house trailer
- 6 Fire truck
- 7 Runway
- 8 Lighting facilities along runway
- 9 Fuel dump
- 10 Parked aircraft
- 11 Aircraft revetments
- 12 Earth walls
- 13 Gravel pit
- 14 Searchlight, 1.5 meters in diameter, mounted on wooden pedestal
- 15 Row of lights
- 16 Middle hangar on northern edge
- 17 Spur track
- 18 Northeastern hangar
- 19 Alert aircraft

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Brandis Airfield

Annex



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For legend, see next page.

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6. About 50 trucks and 40 caterpillar tractors were parked at the field.

1. Comment. It is believed that Brandis airfield is occupied by the headquarters of the Ftr Div Grossenhain and 2 fighter regiments. The transfer from Grossenhain of rail shipments started on 8 May 1955.

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A total of 36 jet fighters were counted on the landing field. For arrangement of aircraft, see Annex.

2. Comment. The reported establishment of radio and radar installations and the laying of lighting facilities after the transfer to a new military post was previously observed with air units.

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Legend to Annex

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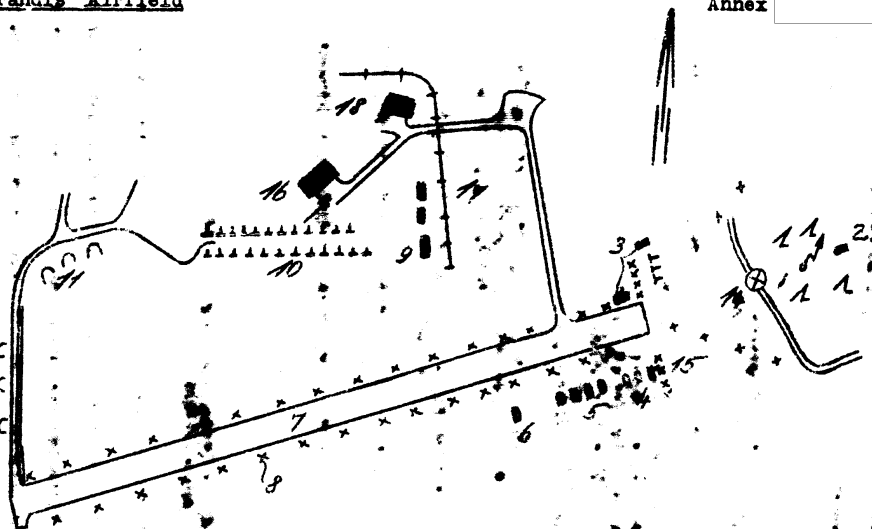
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